THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is seeking major deviations, which mainly relate to (a) Limitation of Liability, (b) Force Majeure, (c) Gas Supply Obligations, (d) Development plan and production plan under Production Sharing Contract (PSC) to have overriding priority to RIL's gas supply obligations.

(c) Yes, Sir. The changes sought by RIL will have adverse commercial impact on NTPC.

(d) NTPC is taking legal and other steps for enforcing the contract. Ministry of Power has written to Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for initiating administrative measures for enforcing the contract entered by RIL with NTPC as well as for taking appropriate steps for revising their Production Sharing Contract.

**FDI in retail market**

*209. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Planning Commission will give detailed presentation on retail FDI in early 2006 for bringing more investment in the consumer industry; and

(b) what are the advantages the farmers will get by bringing FDI in the retail market?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in retail can support the growth of the organised retail market, give a boost to the processed food industry, bring about value addition, help in reducing wastages in the supply chain through the development of cold chain and introduction of modern technologies and practices in agriculture and agro-industries, and result in better prices to the farmers.

**Percentage of electrified households in rural and urban areas**

*210. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of households in urban and rural India electrified so far;

(b) how the all India percentage of electrified households in rural and urban areas compare with those in the Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, U.P. and Bihar;

(c) how the per capita supply of electricity in these States, compared with all India figures; and

(d) whether some of the States still indulge in free supply of electricity to certain sectors like the farmers and make election promises to that end, despite Prime Minister's advice not to indulge in such populist announcements, if so, which ones?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) All India and State-wise percentage of electrified households in rural and urban areas as published by Census of India 2001 are given as under:

| %age of house holds electrified | All India | Punjab | Haryana | Rajasthan | Uttar Pradesh | Bihar |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Urban | 87.6 | 96.49 | 92.94 | 89.61 | 79.92 | 59.3 |
| Rural | 43.5 | 89.46 | 78.50 | 44.02 | 19.84 | 5.1 |

(c) All India and State-wise per capita supply of electricity, as reported by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), in the year 2004-05, is given as under:

| Per Capita Supply of Electricity (Units) | All India | Punjab | Haryana | Rajasthan | Uttar Pradesh | Bihar |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 15 | 1231 | 938 | 568 | 304 | 74 |

(d) Yes, Sir. At present three States *viz.* Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Tamil Nadu are giving free supply of power without any ceiling on consumption to certain categories of consumers like agriculture.

In the States of Madhya Pradesh, Kerala and Karnataka free supply of electricity is available to certain category of consumers only upto a very limited level of consumption or connected load.